

O'Neill Pumping Plant Circuit Breaker Replacement Project

South-Central California Area Office

Date: August 17, 2009

COPY

To:	Wildlife Biologist	SCC 420	<u>MK</u>	M Kinsey	8/17/09
	Natural Resource Specialist	SCC 413	<u>RH</u>	R Healer	8/19/09
	Natural Resource Specialist	SCC 423	<u>25012</u>	N Gruenhagen	8/19/09
	Secretary	SCC 101	<u>DE</u>	P Escobar	8/20
	Chief, Resource Division	SCC 400	<u>LM</u>	L Myers	8/31
	Deputy Area Manager	SCC 430	<u>MS</u>	T Buelna	8/31
	Natural Resource Specialist	SCC 413	<u>RH</u>	R Healer	8/31/09

Cost Authority Number: 12519103041001910S (WOID 417)

From: Rain Healer

Subject: Review and signing of Categorical Exclusion Checklist

Please review the attached CEC and route it according to the order on the list. When your review is finished, please date, initial and sign on the last page. However, if you have comments or questions please contact the Environmental Team or the proponent of the action. When everyone has signed the CEC, please return it to Rain Healer.

Thank you.

Ready for Central Files 8/31/09

Copies to: MP-3730 (1 Copy)
 Natural Resources Specialist (1 Copy): Rain Healer – SCC-413
 Project Lead (1 Copy): Victor Yue – MP200
 RMD Files (E-Copy): Kiran Grewal SCC-417

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST
O'Neill Pumping Plant Circuit Breaker Replacement Project

South-Central California Area Office

August 5, 2009

Background: The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Act) is an economic stimulus package, worth up to \$787 billion, which was signed into law on February 17, 2009 for the purpose of stimulating the United States economy during a significant economic downturn. The Department of the Interior has been tasked with managing \$3 billion in investments as part of the Act in order to jumpstart the economy, create or save jobs, and address long-neglected challenges. Of the \$3 billion, one billion will be invested in water infrastructure across the United States by the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). Out of this, \$260 million will go to projects in California that will expand water supplies, repair aging water infrastructure, and mitigate the effects of a devastating drought the state is currently experiencing. An additional \$135 million is available for grants for water reuse and recycling projects.

The O'Neill Pump-Generating Plant (O'Neill), a Reclamation facility constructed between 1964-67, is located within the San Luis Dam quadrangle, Section 1, Township 10 south, Range 8 east, Merced County, California, 12 miles west of the City of Los Banos (Figure 1). O'Neill consists of an intake channel leading off the Delta-Mendota Canal and six pump-generating units (Figure 2). These units consist of two sets of circuit breakers. One circuit breaker set turns the pumps on and off and allows the units to operate as pumps to lift water from 45 to 53 feet into the O'Neill Forebay. The circuit breaker set, operates as generators when water is occasionally released from the forebay to the Delta-Mendota Canal. When operating as pumps and motors, each unit can discharge 700 cubic feet per second and has a rating of 6,000 horse-power. When operating as turbines and generators, each unit has a generating capacity of about 4,200 kilowatts.

Part of the Act funding has been awarded to replace and upgrade the switchgear circuit breakers at O'Neill that are used for pumping water and generating electricity.

Proposed Action: Reclamation proposes to replace and upgrade the existing switchgear circuit breakers at O'Neill. The Proposed Action includes:

- Inspection of existing power circuit breakers and switchgear lineups.
- Purchase, testing, and installation of twelve 4,160 volt replacement power circuit breakers.
- Removal and disposal of 12 existing power circuit breakers from the switchgear lineups.
- Installation of a computerized remote racking system within the existing switchgear cabinet, including modifications of the control circuits of the racking mechanism. The remote racking system is a computerized system that

mechanically pushes breakers into the lineup allowing employees to be further away from electrical equipment during maintenance.

The new racking system and circuit breakers would be tested in the field in conjunction with the existing switchgear lineups.

All work to be done is within existing equipment. No new construction or ground disturbance is associated with the Proposed Action.

Purpose of Action: The purpose of the action is to replace older circuit breakers and to upgrade the switchgear lineup by adding a remote racking system that would allow for mechanical instead of manual manipulation of electrical equipment providing a safer working environment.

Exclusion Category: 516 DM 14.5 D (1). Maintenance, rehabilitation, and replacement of existing facilities which may involve a minor change in size, location, and/or operation.



Evaluation of Criteria for Categorical Exclusion

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------|-------------------------|-----|
| 1. This action or group of actions would have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. | No <u> X </u> | Uncertain <u> </u> | Yes |
| 2. This action or group of actions would involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources. | No <u> X </u> | Uncertain <u> </u> | Yes |

Evaluation of Exemptions to Actions within Categorical Exclusion

- | | | | |
|--|-----------------|-------------------------|-----|
| 1. This action would have significant adverse effects on public health or safety. | No <u> X </u> | Uncertain <u> </u> | Yes |
| 2. This action would have an adverse effect on unique geological features such as wetlands, wild or scenic rivers, refuges, flood plains, rivers placed on the nationwide river inventory, or prime or unique farmlands. (Same as 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, Part 2.2). | No <u> X </u> | Uncertain <u> </u> | Yes |
| 3. This action will have highly controversial environmental effects. | No <u> X </u> | Uncertain <u> </u> | Yes |
| 4. This action will have highly uncertain environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks. | No <u> X </u> | Uncertain <u> </u> | Yes |
| 5. This action will establish a precedent for future actions. | No <u> X </u> | Uncertain <u> </u> | Yes |
| 6. This action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulative significant environmental effects. | No <u> X </u> | Uncertain <u> </u> | Yes |

- | | | | |
|--|-------------|----------------|-----|
| 7. This action will affect properties listed or eligible to be listed in the National Register of Historical Places. | No <u>X</u> | Uncertain ____ | Yes |
| 8. This action will adversely affect a species listed or proposed to be listed as endangered or threatened. | No <u>X</u> | Uncertain ____ | Yes |
| 9. This action threatens to violate Federal, State, Local or Tribal law or requirements imposed for protection of the environment. | No <u>X</u> | Uncertain ____ | Yes |
| 10. This action will affect Indian Trust Assets. | No <u>X</u> | Uncertain ____ | Yes |
| 11. This action will disproportionately affect minority or low-income populations. | No <u>X</u> | Uncertain ____ | Yes |

NEPA Action: Categorical Exclusion X EA ____ EIS ____

Environmental commitments, explanation, and/or remarks:

☐ Yes ☒ No Environmental commitments are required and attached.

- ☐ San Joaquin Kit Fox Avoidance and Minimization Measures
- ☐ Giant Garter Snake Avoidance and Minimization Measures
- ☐ California Tiger Salamander Avoidance and Minimization Measures
- ☐ California Red-Legged Frog Avoidance and Minimization Measures
- ☐ Other:

Air Quality:

There are no air quality emissions associated with this project; therefore, there are no impacts to air quality.

Prepared by:

Rain Healer

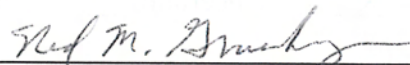
Date: August 17, 2009

South-Central California Area Office


Regional Archeologist concurrence with Item 7:
See attachment.

ITA Designee concurrence with Item 10:
See attachment.

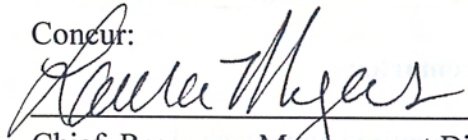
Concur:

 Date: 08/28/09
Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist, South-Central California Area Office

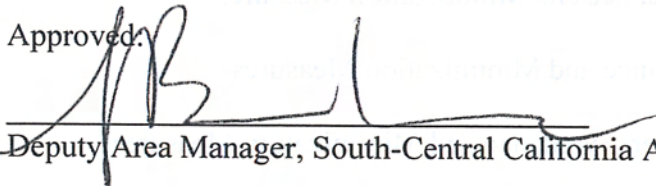
Concur:

 Date: 08/17/2009
Wildlife Biologist, South-Central California Area Office

Concur:

 Date: 8/31/09
Chief, Resources Management Division, South-Central California Area Office

Approved:

 Date: 8/31/09
Deputy Area Manager, South-Central California Area Office

Healer, Rain L

From: Kinsey, Charles M (Michael)
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2009 10:19 AM
To: Healer, Rain L
Subject: RE: CEC-09-125 O'Neill Pumping Plant Circuit Breaker Replacement Project

Rain,

As this project is taking place entirely within an existing facility, involves no construction or ground disturbance, and will not change the uses of the facility or the amounts of water available to listed species, there will be no effect to listed species or critical habitats. Bring the folder by and I will sign off on it.

Mike K

Michael Kinsey
Supervisory Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
South-Central California Area Office
1243 'N' Street
Fresno, CA 93721
559-487-5139 (direct)
559-487-5397 (fax)
559-905-0279 (cell)

From: Healer, Rain L
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2009 7:37 AM
To: Barnes, Amy J; Bruce, Brandee E; Connolly, Jonathan D; Leigh, Anastasia T; Morris, Peter J; Nickels, Adam M; Overly, Stephen A; Gruenhagen, Ned M; Kinsey, Charles M (Michael); Lewis, Jennifer; McDonald, Shauna A
Subject: CEC-09-125 O'Neill Pumping Plant Circuit Breaker Replacement Project

I have attached a new CEC for review.

Cost authority: 12519103041001910S (WOID 417)
This is an ARRA project

Rain L. Healer
Natural Resource Specialist
Bureau of Reclamation
1243 N Street, SCC 413
Fresno, CA 93721
(559) 487-5196
rhealer@usbr.gov

Healer, Rain L

From: Nickels, Adam M
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2009 9:04 AM
To: Healer, Rain L; Barnes, Amy J; Bruce, Brandee E; Connolly, Jonathan D; Leigh, Anastasia T; Overly, Stephen A; Gruenhagen, Ned M; Kinsey, Charles M (Michael); Lewis, Jennifer; McDonald, Shauna A
Subject: RE: CEC-09-125 O'Neill Pumping Plant Circuit Breaker Replacement Project

Project No 09-SCAO-312

Rain:

The Proposed undertaking to conduct repair and maintenance of the O'Neil Pumping Plant, a Reclamation facility, has no potential to affect historic properties pursuant to the regulations at 36 CFR Part 800.3(a)(1).

The proposed action involves the removal and replacement of 12 existing circuit breakers within existing circuit breaker cabinets and the installation of a computerized racking system within an existing switchgear cabinet. The purpose of these improvements is to improve the reliability and technology of the electrical distributions systems at O'Neil Pumping Plant. The work will require no modification or addition to existing structures. There will be no ground disturbance or physical modification of structures as a result of this undertaking.

I concur with line 7 of CEC 09-125 Dated August 5, 2009 for the O'Neil Pumping Plant Circuit Breaker Replacement Project.

Location: O'Neil Forebay, near San Luis Dam, Merced County, CA

Exclusion: D(1)

This concludes the Section 106 process for this undertaking.

Sincerely,

Adam M. Nickels, M.S.
Archeologist
Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Regional Office, MP-153
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, California 95825

Phone: 916.978.5053
Fax: 916.978.5055

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Sent: Monday, August 17, 2009 7:37 AM
To: Barnes, Amy J; Bruce, Brandee E; Connolly, Jonathan D; Leigh, Anastasia T; Morris, Peter J; Nickels, Adam M; Overly, Stephen A; Gruenhagen, Ned M; Kinsey, Charles M (Michael); Lewis, Jennifer; McDonald, Shauna A
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Rain L. Healer

Natural Resource Specialist

Bureau of Reclamation

1243 N Street, SCC 413

Fresno, CA 93721

(559) 487-5196

rhealer@usbr.gov

Healer, Rain L

From: Rivera, Patricia L
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2009 2:23 PM
To: Healer, Rain L
Subject: RE: CEC-09-125 O'Neill Pumping Plant

Rain

I reviewed the proposed action to replace and upgrade the existing switchgear circuit breakers at O'Neill. The Proposed Action includes:

- Inspection of existing power circuit breakers and switchgear lineups.
- Purchase, testing, and installation of twelve 4,160 volt replacement power circuit breakers.
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Part of the Act funding has been awarded to replace and upgrade the switchgear circuit breakers at O'Neill.

The proposed action does not affect Indian Trust Assets. The nearest ITA is Chicken Ranch Rancheria approximately 66 miles NE of the project location.

Patricia

SECTION 01110 - SUMMARY OF WORK

PART 1 GENERAL

1.01 LOCATION

- A. Work is located in the O'Neill Pumping-Generating Plant approximately 12 miles west of Los Banos, Merced County, California.

1.02 PRINCIPAL COMPONENTS OF WORK

- A. Inspect existing power circuit breakers and switchgear lineups at the jobsite.
- B. Furnish and factory test twelve new replacement power circuit breakers.
- C. Remove and dispose of twelve existing power circuit breakers from the switchgear lineups.
- D. Install a remote racking system and modify control circuits of racking mechanism.
- E. Install twelve new replacement power circuit breakers.
- F. Test twelve new replacement power circuit breakers in conjunction with existing switchgear lineups in the field.
- G. Test the remote racking system in the field.

1.03 SPECIFICATIONS REQUIREMENTS

- A. Requirements in Division 1 – General Requirements apply to Divisions 2 through 16.
- B. Imperative statements in these specifications are Contractor requirements, unless otherwise stated.
- C. Where specifications are written in streamlined form, the words “shall be” are included by inference where a colon (:) is used within the sentence or phrase.

1.04 DEFINITIONS

- A. When the specifications use a word or term defined in the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR), the definition of the word or term shall be in accordance with FAR sections in effect at the time the solicitation was issued.

1.05 ACRONYMS

- A. The following acronyms apply to specifications Divisions 1 through 16:
 - 1. CO: Contracting Officer
 - 2. COR: Contracting Officer's Representative

3. CE: Construction Engineer.
4. OGR Onsite Government Representative.

PART 2 PRODUCTS

Not Used

PART 3 EXECUTION

Not Used

END OF SECTION

O'Neill Circuit Breaker Replacement Project

5 Aug 09

replacing breakers in existing areas?
No new construction?

Where is the remote racking system being installed?
How is it being installed?

This is being funded by ARRA?

- awarded to ...
- purpose of project →
- amount?
- partially or fully funded.

Keith Caldwell
is PM

→ timeline, CA

Location - San Luis Dam quadrangle, S1, T10S, R8E

Purpose -

Is this part of infrastructure improvement?

Are the breakers past their useful life?

Timeline for Project

start
end

~~Oct 2009~~ next year?

Who's doing work?

Done by Reclamation or DMCAuthority?

still inside cabinet → doing work for us
instead of cabinet
motorized

Mechanically pushes breaker → will be
put into same cabinet

can send spec if I want
→